Departure and Arrival Lounge Facilities at Mangalore

6244. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate departure and arrival lounge facilities are not available at Mangalore Airport as compared to similar other airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide adequate facilities there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The facilities are inadequate as the terminal building at Mangalore airport is very old. AAI has plans to upgrade the Mangalore airport for limited international operations during the Ninth Plan period in a phased manner.

STD Facility in Kanaud City of Devas District

6245. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not making the STD facility of the desired level in Kanuad city of Devas district so far despite the fact that optic fibre line has been laid between Devas and Kanuad;

(b) whether instruments relating to telephone system have been sent to Kanuad, but they have not been installed so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a post of sub-divisional officer has been sanctioned for Kanuad, but it has not been filled for a long period; and

(e) the time by which STD facility of the desired level is likely to be made available in Kanaud?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) STD service was earlier provided on overhead lines. It has not been provided using optical fibre.

(d) An officer has been posted.

(e) STD facility is now available using optical fibre since 15.4.97.

Irregularities by CTS Officials, Netaji Nagar, N.D.

6246. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding the irregularities committed by official of C.T.S. Netaji Nagar, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry regarding the illegal deal in the misappropriation of the amount received as a result of unloading the truck;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) (a) and (b) No complaint against any official of the CTS, New Delhi has been received. However, 2 complaints regarding exorbitant unloading charges were received from transporters, namely M/s. Sunrise Transport Service, Calcutta and M/s. Gajendra Roadlines, Calcutta.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Air Service for Ajmer

6247. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to connect Ajmer with airways;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether State Government has proposed to give free land from their side in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (f) Airports Authority of India has plans to construct an airport at Ajmer, suitable for operation of 50 seater aircraft, provided the State Government of Rajasthan hands over 460 acres of land free of cost and free from all encumberances. The response of the State Government is awaited.

Profit of Sail

6248. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit of SAIL has decreased to 50 percent during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government to arrest the loss of SAIL in 1997-98 and 1998-99 ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (c) The accounts for the year 1996-97 are under finalisation. Therefore, it is difficult to say at this stage that the profit of SAIL has decreased to 50 per cent.